

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 2970

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PROP LA TH US
SUBJECT: LAO "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" PUBLISHES HARSH ATTACK ON NEW THAI
REGIME AND U.S. BY FORMER THAMMASAT RECTOR

REF A VIENTIANE 2720, B VIENTIANE 2964, C VIENTIANE 2911

1. THE LAO "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" DECEMBER 23 CARRIED
THE FIRST OF WHAT WILL APPARENTLY BE A SHORT SERIES OF
EXCERPTS FROM A BITTER ATTACK ON THE NEW BANGKOK
LEADERSHIP BY PUAU UNGPHAKON, FORMER RECTOR OF
THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY.

2. THE BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES EXPLAINED:
"RECENTLY THE 'PEACE' NEWSPAPER OF THE PATRIOTIC,
INDEPENDENT AND DEMOCRATIC THAI PEOPLE PUBLISHED IN
A FOREIGN COUNTRY PRINTED AN ARTICLE WRITTEN BY DR.
PUAU UNGPHAKON, RECTOR OF THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY,
REVEALING THE BACKGROUND OF THE COUP D'ETAT LAUNCHED
BY THE THAI REACTIONARY MILITARY LEADERS ON OCTOBER 6,
1976. SO THAT OUR READERS CAN LEARN OF THE ELABORATE
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TRICKS AND PLANS OF THE CIA AND THE THAI MILITARY
ULTRARIGHTIEST DICTATORS, THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE WILL
BEGIN PUBLICATION OF THE ARTICLE."

3. THE ARTICLE EXCERPT RELATES "POLICE CRUELTY" AT
THAMMASAT OCTOBER 6 AND THEN DISCUSSES POLITICAL

DEVELOPMENTS IN THAILAND BEGINNING IN APRIL 1973.
THE ARTICLE QUOTES THE "CIA AND THAI ULTRA-RIGHTISTS"
AS SAYING: "IF ABOUT TEN TO TWENTY THOUSAND STUDENTS
ARE KILLED THE COUNTRY WILL BE IN PEACE."

4. THE ARTICLE, APPEARING ON PAGE TWO OF THE FOUR
PAGE DAILY, IS ACCOMPANIED BY A PICTURE WHICH THE
CAPTION DESCRIBES AS "AN OCTOBER 6 EVENT; THEY USED
AUTO TIRES AS FUEL TO BURN THE PATRIOTIC STUDENTS
SAVAGELY IN THE MIDDLE OF A STREET IN BANGKOK."

5. COMMENT: THE SERIES OF ARTICLES, COUPLED WITH THE
CONTINUING DAILY COVERAGE OF THE SUCCESSES OF THE THAI
INSURGENCY IN THE LAO MEDIA (NOTED REF A) AND RECENT
REPORTS OF THAI BORDER INTRUSIONS (REFS B AND C)
AMOUNTS TO AN ESCALATION IN THE LEVEL OF HOSTILITY
DIRECTED AT THAILAND BY THE CONTROLLED LAO MEDIA.
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